

# TENNESSEE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION MINUTES TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24 10:00 a.m.

The October 2019 meeting was held on October 24, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in Nashville, TN. Chairman Skiles, Commissioner Roberts, and Commissioner Tomita were present. In attendance on behalf of TABC staff were the following: Director Thomas, Commission Counsel Stepp, Commission Counsel Hollingshead-Cook, Commission Counsel Mercurio, CLEO Tubbs, Deputy Chief Brent Clayton, Aaron Rummage, Chris Dowell, and Scott Wolfe.

Pursuant to T.C.A. §8-44-108, meetings may be conducted permitting participation of electronic or other means of communication.

#### 1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2019, COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Commissioner Tomita moved to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

#### 2. RETAIL MATTERS

1. LIQUOR WORLD GALLATIN, TENNESSEE (SUMNER COUNTY)

Applicant: NJ Investments, LLC

Member(s): Nehal Patel (99%), Jinalben Patel (1%)

Current licensee: Surati Retail Investments 2, LLC d/b/a Liquor World<sup>1</sup>

Proposed licensee: NJ Investments, LLC d/b/a Liquor World

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 136 N Belvedere Dr, Gallatin, TN 37066. The applicant is acquiring the package store from the existing licensee owned by Surati Retail Investments 2<sup>2</sup>. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to payment of the license fee.

LICETISE NO. KTERPS-SOIVI-1011020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> License no. RTLRPS-SUM-1811020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.



<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to the license fee. Commissioner Tomita moved approval subject to receipt of the license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

### 2. THE BUZZ, MEDINA WINE & SPIRITS MEDINA, TN (GIBSON COUNTY)

Applicant: The Buzz, Medina Wine & Spirits

Shareholders: Wanda Elder, 100%

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a new retail package store licensee to be located at 113 S Main St, Medina, TN 38355. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to:

- inspection which includes an acknowledgment of TABC rules & regulations
- b. agent report
- c. license fee

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the agent report, inspection with acknowledgement of TABC rules & regulations, and the license fee. Commissioner Roberts moved approval subject to receipt of the inspection, agent report, and license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.



# 3. 901 WINE & SPIRITS MARKET MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE (SHELBY COUNTY)

Applicant: 901 Wine & Spirits Market, LLC

Member(s): Jeffrey Coole, 100%

Current licensee: Scott Smith d/b/a Wine Market<sup>3</sup>

Proposed licensee: 901 Wine & Spirits Market, LLC d/b/a 901 Wine & Spirits

Market

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 4734 Spottswood, Memphis, TN 38117. The applicant is acquiring the package store from the existing licensee owned by Scott Smith<sup>4</sup>. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to:

- a. inspection which includes an acknowledgment of TABC rules & regulations
- b. agent report
- c. license fee

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the agent report, inspection with acknowledgement of TABC rules & regulations, and the license fee. Commissioner Tomita moved approval subject to receipt of the inspection, agent report, and license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> RTLRPS-SHE-1907425

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.



# 4. 109 WINES & LIQUORS GALLATIN, TENNESSEE (SUMNER COUNTY)

Applicant: Dhan Laxmi, Inc.

Member(s): Vasant Patel (50%), Taraben Patel (50%)

Current licensee: 109 Wines & Liquors, Incorporated d/b/a 109 Wines &

Liquors<sup>5</sup>

Proposed licensee: Dhan Laxmi, Inc. d/b/a 109 Wines & Liquors

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 1344 S Water Ave, Gallatin, TN 37066. The applicant is acquiring the package store from the existing licensee owned by 109 Wines & Liquors, Incorporated<sup>6</sup>. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to:

a. copy of deed after closing

b. license fee

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the copy of deed after closing and the license fee. Commissioner Roberts moved approval subject to receipt of the copy of deed after closing and the license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

<sup>6</sup> In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> RTLRPS-SUM-1831079



# 5. DISCOUNT LIQUORS & TOBACCO ANTIOCH, TENNESSEE (DAVIDSON COUNTY)

Applicant: Yug Inc.

Member(s): Anjana Patel, 100%

Current licensee: Gayatriji Inc. d/b/a Discount Liquors & Tobacco<sup>7</sup> Proposed licensee: Yug Inc. d/b/a Discount Liquors & Tobacco

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 940 Richards Rd, Suite 104 Antioch, TN 37013. The applicant is acquiring the package store from the existing licensee owned by Gayatriji Inc<sup>8</sup>. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to:

a. agent report

b. license fee

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the agent report and the license fee. Commissioner Tomita moved approval subject to receipt of the agent report and the license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

<sup>8</sup> In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> RTLRPS-DAV-1821176



# 6. MOUNTAIN SPIRITS MOUNTAIN CITY, TENNESSEE (JOHNSON COUNTY)

Applicant: 2Sisters LLC

Shareholders: Kimberly Gelato (70%), John Gelato (25%), Robert

Blackwell (5%)

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a new retail package store licensee to be located at 204 Pioneer Village Dr., Mountain City, TN 37683. <u>The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to:</u>

- inspection which includes an acknowledgment of TABC rules & regulations
- b. agent report
- c. license fee

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the agent report, inspection with acknowledgement of TABC rules & regulations, and the license fee. Commissioner Roberts moved approval subject to receipt of the inspection, agent report, and license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

# 7. HOLLYWOOD LIQUOR JACKSON, TENNESSEE (MADISON COUNTY)

Applicant: VRJ Corporation

Member(s): Jay Patel (50%), Vinodkumar Patel (50%)

Current licensee: LMN Investments d/b/a Hollywood Liquor<sup>9</sup> Proposed licensee: VRJ Corporation d/b/a Hollywood Liquor

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> RTLRPS-MAD-1813021



Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 801 Hollywood Dr, Jackson, TN 38301. The applicant is acquiring the package store from the existing licensee owned by LMN Investments<sup>10</sup>. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval subject to payment of the license fee.

**Discussion/Action Taken:** Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the license fee. Commissioner Tomita moved approval subject to receipt of the license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

#### **TOPSIDE WINE AND SPIRITS** 8. LOUISVILLE, TENNESSEE (BLOUNT COUNTY)

Applicant: Topside, LLC

Member(s): Alpesh Patel (97%), Ravi Patel (3%)

Current licensee: Topside Wine & Spirits LLC d/b/a Topside Wine and Spirits<sup>11</sup> Proposed licensee: Topside LLC d/b/a Topside Wine and Spirits

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a retail package store licensee to be located at 2037 Topside Rd., Louisville, TN 37777. The applicant is acquiring the package store from the existing licensee owned by Topside Wine & Spirits LLC<sup>12</sup>. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the license subject to:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> RTLRPS-BLO-1828124

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> In accordance with Tennessee law, sellers are to transfer title and possession of the liquor inventory to the applicant via TABC licensed wholesalers' involvement.



- a. license fee
- b. inspection which includes an acknowledgment of TABC rules & regulations

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the license fee and the inspection with acknowledgement of TABC rules & regulations. Commissioner Roberts moved approval subject to receipt of the license fee and inspection and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

### 9. MARYLAND FARMS WINE & SPIRITS BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE (WILLIAMSON COUNTY)

Applicant: Maryland Farms Wine & Spirits, LLC

Current stockholder: John Cooper, 100% Proposed trustee: John Stone III, 100%

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a new 100% sole shareholder in the licensed entity located at 101 Creekside Xing, Unit 800, Brentwood, TN 37027. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval of the new 100% sole shareholder subject to:

a. certificate of compliance

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to receiving the certificate of compliance. Commissioner Tomita moved approval subject to receipt of the certificate of compliance and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.



# 10. STONES RIVER LIQUOR MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE (RUTHERFORD COUNTY)

Applicant: Kanisha, Inc.

Shareholders: <u>Current</u> <u>Proposed</u>

Jigna Patel, 35% Jigna Patel, 50%

Bina Patel, 30% Bina Patel, 40%

Kinnari Patel, 10% Kinnari Patel, 10%

Dipakkumar Patel, 15% Manish Patel, 10%

The retail package store doing business at 208 N Thompson Ln, Murfreesboro, TN 37129 is requesting approval of change in ownership. Two of the current shareholders have interest in different businesses. The TABC staff recommends approval of the change in ownership.

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended approval of the change in ownership. Commissioner Roberts moved approval and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

# 11. LIQUOR PLANET MURFREESBORO, TENNESSEE (RUTHERFORD COUNTY)

Applicant: Rishi Inc.

Shareholders: <u>Current</u> <u>Proposed</u>

Bina Patel, 30% Dipakkumar Patel, 100%

Kinnari Patel, 15%

Dipakkumar Patel, 25%

Prajesh Patel, 30%

The retail package store doing business at 3508 Shelbyville Pike, Murfreesboro, TN 37128 is requesting approval of change in ownership. Three of the current



shareholders have interest in different businesses. <u>The TABC staff</u> recommends approval of the change in ownership.

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended approval of the change in ownership. Commissioner Tomita moved approval and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

#### 3. WINERY MATTERS

# 1. DELTA BLUES WINERY LAKELAND, TENNESSEE (SHELBY COUNTY)

Applicant: Delta Blues Winery, LLC

Shareholders: <u>Current</u> <u>Proposed</u>

Jerry Michie, 100% Jerry Michie, 98%

John Michie, 2%

The winery licensee doing business at 6585 Stewart Rd, Lakeland, TN 38002 is requesting approval of change in ownership. Jerry Michie is giving John Michie 2% interest in the LLC. The TABC staff recommends approval of the change in ownership.

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended approval of the change in ownership. Commissioner Roberts moved approval and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.



#### 4. FARM WINERY MATTERS

### 1. LONG HOLLOW GARDENS GALLATIN, TENNESSEE (SUMNER COUNTY)

Applicant: Nursery Sales Inc.

Before the Commission is a request for approval of a farm winery licensee to be located at 2064 Long Hollow Pike, Gallatin, TN 37066. The applicant has a "Custom Crush" agreement with Beachaven Vineyards & Winery in Clarksville, TN. The TABC staff recommends conditional approval subject to payment of the license fee.

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval subject to the license fee. Commissioner Roberts asked what is a "Custom Crush" agreement and Director Thomas explained that the farm winery does not turn their grapes into wine, so they have an agreement with a winery to help them make wine out of their grapes. Commissioner Roberts moved approval subject to receiving the license fee and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

#### 5. WHOLESALE MATTERS

### 1. D&V DISTRIBUTING COMPANY KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE (KNOX COUNTY)

Applicant: D&V Distributing Company

Members: Lucien L. Bailey & Company (60.416%), Skyland Park, LLC

(33.33%), Kimball O. Nelson (4.25%), Louis M. Nelson (2%)

The wholesaler doing business at 5608 NW Middlebrook, Knoxville, TN 37921 is requesting approval of a change in ownership. For the members of the Lucien L. Bailey & Company, they are adding Kreis B. Beall (who will own 34.76% of



Lucien L. Bailey & Company) and IRR FBO Kimball Bailey Nelson (who will own 18.72% of Lucien L. Bailey & Company). <u>The TABC staff recommends</u> conditional approval subject to payment of the license fee.

**Discussion/Action Taken**: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval of the change in ownership. Curtis Harrington, on behalf of D&V Distributing Company, explained that the percentages listed in the published agenda were inaccurate and wanted to amend the description with the correct numbers and type of fee. For Kreis B. Beall owning 34.76% of Lucien L. Bailey & Company, the accurate number is 21.67% and that the number was consistent with all supporting documents submitted to TABC. For IRR FBO Kimball Bailey Nelson owning 18.72% of Lucien L. Bailey & Company, the accurate number is 11.67%. For payment of the license fee, it's payment of the application fee, which was paid prior to publishing of the agenda. Commissioner Roberts asked who were all the final members of D&V Distributing Company. Mr. Harrington listed all the members and transactions. Commissioner Roberts moved approval and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

#### 6. MANUFACTURER MATTERS

# 1. TENNESSEE LEGEND SEVIERVILLE, TENNESSEE (SEVIER COUNTY)

Applicant: Crystal Falls Spirits, LLC

Shareholders: <u>Current</u> <u>Proposed</u>

Jay Holeman (100%) Jay Holeman (65%)

Vickie Fraser (35%)

The manufacturer doing business at 870 Winfield Dunn Pkwy, Suite 2, Sevierville, TN 37876 and at three other locations<sup>13</sup> in the state is requesting approval of a change in ownership. Jay Holeman has assigned Vickie Fraser

<sup>13</sup> SUPMFR-PUT-1807932, SUPMFR-DAV-1815387, SUPMFR-SEV-1832065, SUPMFR-SEV-1903453



35% membership interest in the LLC. <u>The TABC staff recommends approval of the change in ownership.</u>

<u>Discussion/Action Taken</u>: Director Thomas summarized the request and recommended conditional approval of the change in ownership.

Commissioner Tomita moved approval and the motion was seconded. The motion passed with three ayes.

#### 6. MISCELLANEOUS

- Director's Update

**Discussion/Action Taken:** Director Thomas updated the Commission on a couple items of interest. For Direct Shipping items, Director Thomas mentioned that Tennessee started collecting data last year from common carriers including FedEx and UPS related to the shipment of alcohol in Tennessee. Earlier this year, the Commission along with the help of the Tennessee Department of Revenue began bringing businesses into compliance when it comes to the shipment of alcohol in Tennessee. Director Thomas provided statistics since this effort began earlier this year, which included a significant increase in the number of Direct Shipper licenses issued this year. Director Thomas informed the commissioners about recently signing an order suspending the license of a limited service licensee in Chattanooga called Coyote Jacks. On October 6, Two TABC agents and local law enforcement were on site conducting a bar check at the location. The city officials ordered the closing of the bar after seeing the number of people in the place far exceeded the limits. As the crowd was leaving, a large group of people remained on the patio of the location and gun shots broke out, which resulted in the loss of an individual who suffered gun shot wounds to the chest. TABC further investigated the establishment after this violent incident. With the help of the Chattanooga Police Department, TABC gathered statistics over the past few years at Coyote Jacks, including other violent incidents, one of which involved another fatal shooting that occurred at the establishment three years ago. TABC also discovered that their security precautions are not maintaining adequate security at the location along with the LLC owning the organization's registration with the Secretary of the State had expired a few months ago. The landlord at the establishment terminated the lease with the business. As a result of all these findings by TABC, Director Thomas signed an order suspending their license with a hearing with the establishment set for this December. Commissioner Roberts asked how TABC is informed of situations like this before they rise to the level of someone being fatally wounded. Director Thomas responded by saying that TABC's local ties and close contact with law enforcement in jurisdictions



throughout the state helps them along with TABC helping local law enforcement in any way possible.

- Law Enforcement Update

**Discussion/Action Taken:** CLEO Tubbs added on to the suspension of Coyote Jacks by saying that our agents (Travis Patton and Melvin Martinez) on the ground there when the incident occurred did a fantastic job responding by detaining suspects and dealing with crowd control. Tubbs updated the Commission on enforcement activity since the last meeting including statistics on the number of inspections conducted, citations issued, fine amounts, minor compliance checks and compliance rate, seizures, and personnel news. Since the last Commission Agenda, Tubbs mentioned that agents were present at two large events (Exit 111 Festival and the Vanderbilt vs. Missouri football game). Tubbs also mentioned that numerous agents were sent to various schools/trainings since the last meeting. Finally, Tubbs mentioned that TABC participated in "Walk like MADD" fundraiser in Nashville on Saturday, October 19, and raised almost \$1200 for our friends at MADD. A representative from MADD went before the Commission and thanked the agency for their participation and support in the fundraiser. The MADD representative gave further information about the "Walk like MADD" fundraiser, including awareness the event raises, how the money raised from the fundraiser is used, and mentioned other locations of the event that takes place in other parts of the state (Knoxville and Memphis).

- 7. **NEXT MEETING** Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 10:00 AM CST
- 8. UPCOMING MEETINGS
  - Tuesday, December 17 @ 10:00 AM CST
  - January (TBD)



#### APPROVED FOR ENTRY UPON THE MINUTE BOOKS OF THE TENNESSEE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION THIS THE 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER 2019.

Commissioner	Director